representation received with respect to classification of the industry/ unit in order to ensure that non-polluting industries do not suffer.

Sewage treatment plants in metropolis

2177. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many sewage treatment plants are presently operating in metropolitan cities in India;

(b) what methodology is being adopted to dispose off the sludge formed during the treatment of sewage in these treatment plants; and

(c) how many sewage drains are directly opening into the Yamuna River in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are 23 metropolitan cities in India as per 1991 census. Out of 23 metro cities, sewage treatment plants exist in 16 cities only. There are 46 sewage treatment plants in operation in these 16 metro cities.

(b) The sludge generated in sewage treatment plants is dried in sludge drying beds and used for application in agricultural fields and for horticulture purpose as manure. It is also used for filling of low lying areas and sold to public.

(c) There are a total of 17 drains directly opening in Yamuna in Delhi.

Sewage drainage into seven rivers in M.P.

2178. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken been under Seven Rivers Action Plan for Madhya Pradesh to minimise the drainage of sewage pipes directly into the seven rivers covered under the Central Plan; and

(b) how many sewage drains are opening directly into these seven rivers, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) A scheme of pollution abatement of seven rivers